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Amedeo F. Ferraro

Firm: U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Fax No.: 703-872-9306

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No. of Pages (including this): 70

Subject: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/921,844

Date:

June 22, 2004

Gary K. Michelson

Filed: August 3, 2001

SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE CONFIGURATION

Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-01000

Customer No. 22882 Confirmation No. 8295 Confirmation Copy to Follow: NO

Message:

(PART 1 OF 2)

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that the attached Transmittal Form (in duplicate; \$1,280.00 total fee to cover the \$950 three-month extension fee and \$330 Notice of Appeal fee is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1066), Notice of Appeal, and Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a) with Exhibits A-J are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 22, 2004.

Sandra L. Blackmon

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FORM PTO-1083

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.181(a) EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 3738

Attorney Docket No.: 101.0084-01000

Customer No. 22882

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Gary K. Michelson Serial No: 09/921,844 Filed: August 3, 2001

FOR SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE

CONFIGURATION

Confirmation No.: 8295

Group Art Unit: 3738 Examiner: B. Snow

Mall Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir.

Transmitted herewith is a Petition Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.181(a) in reply to the Advisory Action dated April 23, 2004 in the above-identified application.

No additional fee is required.

Applicant hereby requests a three-month extension of time to respond to the Final Office Action dated January 7, 2004.

A Notice of Appeal is enclosed.

A total fee in the amount of \$1,280.00 (to cover the \$950 three-month extension fee and \$330 Notice of Appeal fee) is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1066.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1066. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Any filing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims

Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17

Respectfully submitted,

MARTIN & FERRARO, LLP

Agledeo F. Ferraro Registration No. 37,129

Date: June 22, 2004

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